

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 MC-02 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20

CG-00 DOTE-00 DRC-01 /125 W
----- 124278

R 200700Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1494

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

CNO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2341

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CE

SUBJ: SHIP FOR SRI LANKA NAVY

REF COLOMBO 1717

1. IN RESPONSE OUR INQUIRY, BALASUBRAMANIAM,
DIRECTOR OF WEST AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HAS AT LAST INFORMED US
GSL IS NO LONGER INTERESTED IN PURCHASING COAST
GUARD PATROL BOAT BECAUSE IT IS "TOO EXPENSIVE".

2. COMMODORE BASIL GOONESEKERA TOLD DEFENSE
ATTACHE GSL NAVY WAS NOW LOOKING FOR 8,000-TON
MERCHANT SHIP ON WHICH TO TRAIN SRI LANKA MERCHANT
SEAMEN. DATT RESPONDED COMMERCIAL SHIPPING
FIRMS MIGHT WELL BE INTERESTED IN SOME ARRANGEMENT

NO REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE WAS MADE.

3. WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE ALL THE HARD WORK
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WASHINGTON AND HONOLULU HAVE PUT INTO "SHIP FOR SLN"

PROJECT AND YOUR PATIENCE IN THIS LENGTHY BUT
WORTHWHILE AFFAIR. THOUGH PURCHASE NOT
CONSUMMATED, WE GAINED CREDIT IN POLITICAL TERMS
BY MAKING THE OFFER, AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR
ALL YOUR EFFORTS.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 20 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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To: STATE
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